IEM's AI Modeling: Short-term COVID-19 Projections

Date: 4/30/21

Leveraging over 15 years of support to HHS for medical consequence modeling and our proprietary artificial intelligence (AI) models, IEM believes that our Coronavirus model outputs can be used to assist localities and their medical facilities to better prepare for an increase in hospitalizations, to better plan for and locate drive-through testing facilities, and to determine where increased levels of transmission may be occurring.

We have been refining our AI model over the past month and are confident in its ability to provide accurate 7-day projections that can be used for operational and logistical planning.

AI-based Model Background

IEM is currently using an AI model to fit data from various sources and project new cases of COVID-19. We do not assume the average number of secondary infections (R-value) stays the same over time. IEM's AI model finds the best R-value over time to evaluate how it changes over the course of the outbreak. The IEM modeling team is running ~11 million simulations to fit each state's data and using the best fit for the R-value to project new cases over the next 7 days. The AI models are executed on a daily basis to evaluate the changing dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our projections have typically been within 10%, and are often within 5%, of actual confirmed cases.

The projections shown in this document are based on data pulled in as of 4/30/21 9 a.m.

Please provide any feedback or send any questions that you might have to us. We are continually updating and improving the model, so your feedback is critical.

Also, if you have more current or refined data for your State, Commonwealth or Territory that you would like IEM to factor in, please let us know.

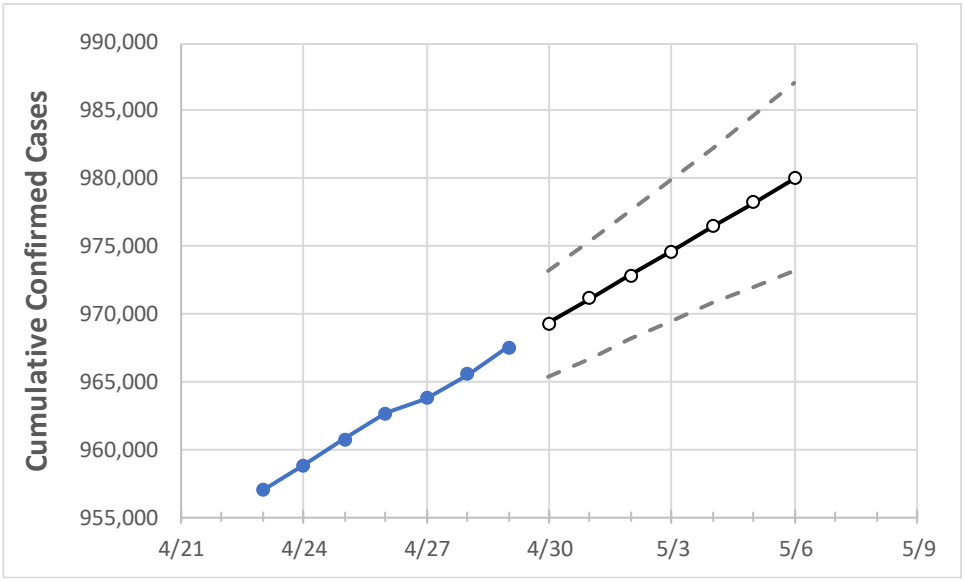
IEM's Modeling Lead

Dr. Prasith "Sid" Baccam is a **Computational Epidemiologist expert** at IEM with more than **20 years of experience in medical consequence modeling and simulation of disease outbreaks** and medical consequences following hypothetical attacks with biological agents or emerging infectious diseases. He develops key simulation models and decision support tools at IEM, specializing in public health, disaster response, and medical countermeasures (MCM) to enhance data-driven decision making and improve modeling assumptions.

Upon receiving his **Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics and Immunobiology** at Iowa State University, Dr. Baccam worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Los Alamos National Laboratory where he focused on researching viral and immunological modeling. After his stint at Los Alamos, Dr. Baccam has served as Task Lead in multiple public health projects have allowed him to develop expertise as a mathematical biologist and a leader on high-performance modeling and simulation teams.

He has worked with state and local public health officials as well as Federal agencies, including **HHS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), and the Department of Homeland Security (**DHS**). Dr. Baccam has published numerous papers on public health response models and implications on policy and has been invited to participate in workshops and symposiums held by the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Health). His modeling results have been briefed to the **Executive Office of the President** and informed two presidential policy actions.

North Carolina State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	4/26	4/27	4/28	4/29	4/30	5/1	5/2	5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6
North Carolina	962,623	963,771	965,536	967,521	969,318	971,117	972,881	974,652	976,452	978,207	979,981

Note: The State's projection shows a "best estimate" curve (the solid line with circles) and the dotted lines are the upper and lower estimates around that best estimate. Our projections have typically been within 10%, and are often within 5%, of actual confirmed cases.

North Carolina Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	4/26	4/27	4/28	4/29	4/30	5/1	5/2	5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6
Cumberland	27,562	27,626	27,719	27,804	27,897	27,994	28,092	28,193	28,297	28,402	28,511
Durham	24,592	24,621	24,671	24,716	24,762	24,807	24,852	24,895	24,938	24,980	25,021
Guilford	46,151	46,205	46,271	46,364	46,466	46,566	46,663	46,760	46,855	46,951	47,044
Mecklenburg	109,135	109,313	109,487	109,737	109,951	110,160	110,366	110,572	110,774	110,975	111,173
Orange	8,427	8,436	8,451	8,467	8,479	8,490	8,501	8,512	8,523	8,534	8,545
Union	23,799	23,841	23,882	23,934	23,983	24,032	24,080	24,127	24,174	24,220	24,265
Wake	85,419	85,491	85,652	85,752	85,898	86,036	86,172	86,308	86,436	86,573	86,704

Some recipients of our daily COVID-19 short-term (7 day) projections have requested projections of demand for: hospital bed, intensive care unit (ICU) beds, and mechanical ventilation. We realize that different states and localities will have different characteristics for hospital demand of COVID-19 cases, and we are presenting the best assumptions we could find for those medical demands based on scientific literature and health data reporting. Specifically:

- *Beds: For hospitalization, we use a range of 10% and 20% of cases require hospitalization based on CDC's report (MMWR, March 18, 2020) and state reports of COVID-19 cases.*
- *ICU: The CDC report found that 24% of hospitalized cases require ICU care.*
- *Ventilators: Based on clinical data from China and state reports, we assume that 50% of ICU cases require a ventilator.*

If you have other estimates for these assumptions, please share them with us as we work to refine our modeling, assumptions, and data on a daily basis.

*The medical demands shown in the table assume 20% of **cumulative** confirmed cases require hospitalization. To get the medical demand for the assumption that 10% of confirmed cases require hospitalization, simply divide the demand by 2.*

North Carolina Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:		
	4/26	4/27	4/28	4/29	5/1	5/3	5/5
Cumberland	27,562	27,626	27,719	27,804	27,994 (5,599) [1,344] {672}	28,193 (5,639) [1,353] {677}	28,402 (5,680) [1,363] {682}
Durham	24,592	24,621	24,671	24,716	24,807 (4,961) [1,191] {595}	24,895 (4,979) [1,195] {597}	24,980 (4,996) [1,199] {600}
Guilford	46,151	46,205	46,271	46,364	46,566 (9,313) [2,235] {1,118}	46,760 (9,352) [2,244] {1,122}	46,951 (9,390) [2,254] {1,127}
Mecklenburg	109,135	109,313	109,487	109,737	110,160 (22,032) [5,288] {2,644}	110,572 (22,114) [5,307] {2,654}	110,975 (22,195) [5,327] {2,663}
Orange	8,427	8,436	8,451	8,467	8,490 (1,698) [408] {204}	8,512 (1,702) [409] {204}	8,534 (1,707) [410] {205}
Union	23,799	23,841	23,882	23,934	24,032 (4,806) [1,154] {577}	24,127 (4,825) [1,158] {579}	24,220 (4,844) [1,163] {581}
Wake	85,419	85,491	85,652	85,752	86,036 (17,207) [4,130] {2,065}	86,308 (17,262) [4,143] {2,071}	86,573 (17,315) [4,155] {2,078}

For additional information from IEM, please contact Bryan Koon, Vice President of Emergency Management and Homeland Security at bryan.koon@iem.com or 850-519-7966 or Stephanie Tennyson at stephanie.tennyson@iem.com or 202-309-4257.